

COUNTRY

Germany (Soviet Zone) 20A

CONFIDENTIAL

TOPIC

Oranienburg Airfield

Yel
236

EVALUATION

see below

PLACE OBTAINED

[REDACTED] 25X1A

DATE OF CONTENT

1 to 16 May 1951

25X1A

DATE OBTAINED

[REDACTED]

DATE PREPARED 19 June 1951

REFERENCES

25X1A

PAGES

3

ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

1 - sketch on ditto

REMARKS

[REDACTED] 25X1X

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1. On 2 May between 11 a.m. and 3 p.m., 42 twin-jet planes and several conventional twin-engine aircraft were observed near the hangar at Oranienburg airfield. (1) Most of the planes, which were painted silver and had no markings, were covered with tarpaulins. There was no flying during the period of observation. The weather was good.

2. The road leading along the northern edge of the field and the railroad line were cordoned off by sentries. About 10 crates, 10 x 2 x 2 meters, were seen beside the spur track. (2) They were being hauled by about eight soldiers. A crane truck was standing nearby.

3. Construction work was being done at the southern edge of the field. Broken stones and gravel, in addition to two concrete mixing machines and eight field railroad dump cars were seen. A construction hut about 20 x 4 meters was being erected. The construction of a taxiway connecting the two runways had apparently been planned. A stretch about 100 meters long had been completed.

4. A radar set was observed on the eastern border of the field. Three portable radio sets, one fitted with a rod antenna 1.5 meters long, were standing next to the mast of the radar set. The mast and the portable radio set with the rod antenna were connected by a thick cable. Four soldiers wearing blue epaulets were seen near the set. A radio installation with four masts was located about 500 meters south of this installation and 60 meters west of the Oranienburg canal. A trailer of a radio truck fitted with a rod antenna was seen between the masts, which were braced but not interconnected by wires. There was also a tent 40 meters from the trailer. A thick cable led from the tent to the trailer. A white insulator was observed at the bottom of each mast. Another radio installation with two masts, 7 and 12 meters high respectively, was located about 400 meters south of the radio station with four masts. (3) The masts were braced at two and three points respectively. Insulators were seen on the masts. The masts were interconnected by a wire which was subdivided by three insulators. A lead-in ran to the center section of the wire from a radio truck.

5. On 2 May 1951, 10 jet bombers and about 25 conventional twin-engine bombers were seen parked in front of and behind the hangar of Oranienburg airfield. A radar set was located on the eastern edge of the field.

CLASSIFICATION

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A Soviet communication detail charged with the constant control of an eight-circuit telephone line was quartered in a house about 800 meters west of Leegebruch.

6. On the afternoon of 4 May there was flying with jet bombers at the field. Two planes usually took off in succession. The retraction of the landing gears was not observed. The planes circled the field for 5 minutes. The [redacted] It appeared that the take-off speed of the jet bombers was not as high as that of the swept-back jet fighters.

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7. On 5 May 1951, about 20 twin-engine conventional aircraft and 30 jet bombers were stationed at Oranienburg airfield. (1) The twin-engine conventional craft were low-wing monoplanes with double rudder assemblies. The antenna mast with an antenna was fitted on the rear of the roof of the plexiglass cabin. Both sections of the rudder assembly were connected with an antenna wire. Two gun barrels were seen in the turret, two in the cabin and one each in the wings. [redacted]

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Maintenance work was being done on the jet bombers daily.

8. About 10 a.m. on 5 May six disassembled jet planes were being loaded on nine flatcars. Fuselages and wings were covered with tarpaulins. (6) The loading was done by 25 EM in the presence of an air force lieutenant colonel and a major wearing red-bordered black epaulets. [redacted]

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[redacted] According to a railroad worker, the shipment was bound for Finow.

9. A cable was being laid from the radar set with ears at the eastern edge of the field to the Weisse Stadt by one officer and seven EM. Nine large and five small fuel tanks were observed at the fuel dump in the northeastern corner of the field. The tanks which were the size of railroad tank cars, had a storage capacity of about 20,000 to 40,000 liters. From 180 to 200 fuel drums, with a capacity of 200 liters each, were stored in the open. A German construction firm was erecting a wooden building 50 x 18 meters at the western edge of the field. The building was provided with a solid foundation.

10. On 10 May 1951, 10 twin-jet planes were observed parked at Oranienburg airfield. Several planes of this type were aloft. One of the planes was [redacted] Truck [redacted] and passenger car [redacted] were seen near the field.

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11. On 16 May at 11:30 a.m., 12 aircraft fitted with two turbines and 40 aircraft fitted with two in-line engines were counted at Oranienburg airfield. About 40 other planes fitted with two in-line engines were observed at the field. (7) The interior of the hangar could not be observed.

Comments

(1) The number of type-27 jet aircraft observed at Oranienburg airfield exceeds the authorized aircraft strength of a bomber regiment. Therefore the authorized aircraft of a bomber regiment equipped with jet aircraft differs from that of a regiment equipped with MiG-2 aircraft or some of the planes concerned do not belong to the bomber regiment stationed at Oranienburg airfield. MiG-2 aircraft are still at the field.

(2) There are no indications that crated type-27 jet planes were shipped by rail to the Soviet Zone of Germany. Moreover, the crates observed are too small for the shipment of jet bomber aircraft.

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(3) For location of the Dumbo type radar set, and the two radio installations see Annex. The radio installation with four masts is an Adcock DF station. 25X1
(4) This armament of the PE-2 is reported for the first time. Weapons in the wings have not been previously observed.
(5) [redacted]
(6) Possibly MiG-15s. Such planes were previously stationed in Oranienburg. Type 27 aircraft are not believed to be shipped by rail.
(7) [redacted] the number of type 27 planes had decreased. This fact cannot be explained. From the unusually large number of PE-2 planes it might be inferred that the planes exchanged for type 27 aircraft are being assembled in Oranienburg.

1 Annex: 1 - sketch on ditto.

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